



HARPER COUNTY

REQUEST FOR COUNTY BOARD ACTION

Items must be received in the Administrator's Office by 12:00 Noon on the Thursday prior to the scheduled meeting to be considered.

Item #: _____
(Assigned by Administrator)

Meeting Date: 3/22/2016

Department: EMS

Item Requested: Updated Billing Policy

Summary of the Issue:

After careful review and consultation, I have updated the Harper County EMS Billing Policies.

Background:

My main goal was to make the policies more concise and accurate. Everything in this updated policy has already been previously approved by the Board of County Commissioners. However there are two areas I have added to in hopes to get them approved by the Board of County Commissioners. Those areas are underlined and if not approved can be removed as necessary.

The first item I would like to add to the current policies is to have any patient account balance of negative \$10 to positive \$10 be adjusted to a 0 balance. For example, if a patient account has a \$5 balance it will be adjusted to 0 and a negative \$5 account will not require a reimbursement check sent to the responsible party.

The second item I would like to add would make it possible for the patient to request a "paid in full discount". A patient (or responsible party) can contact me and ask to pay a discounted rate, only if paid immediately in one lump sum. This would of course be different for each account and will be reviewed carefully prior to offering the discount. I would make sure to never allow any co-pay, co-insurance or deductible to be discounted. Along with that we would never accept any discount lower than the Medicare allowed rate. For example if the patient account shows ALS Emergent call for 10 loaded miles, Harper County would charge \$840.00 for that call. If the patient qualifies for the discounted rate, Harper County would ask them to make a one-time payment \$514.48 due immediately. Patients currently pay on average \$20/month, which takes 42 months (3 years, 5 months) to receive our payment in full.

Funding:

None

Recommendation:

To approve the updated Harper County EMS Billing Policy (see attached)